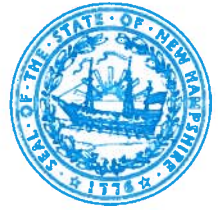




The State of New Hampshire
Department of Environmental Services



Clark B. Freise, Assistant Commissioner

March 22, 2017

The Honorable Chris Christensen
Chair, Resources, Recreation, and Development Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 305
Concord, NH 03301

RE: SB 118 An Act defining pervious surfaces in the shoreland water quality protection act

Dear Chair Christensen and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB 118. This bill, as amended by the Senate, would define the term "pervious surface" as used in RSA 483-B. The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) supports this bill as amended.

RSA 483-B, the Shoreland Water Quality Protection Act, establishes stormwater requirements for those projects occurring within protected shorelands that exceed certain impervious surface coverage thresholds. For implementation purposes, RSA 483-B:4 VII-b defines "impervious surface" as "any modified surface that cannot effectively absorb or infiltrate water." This bill seeks to add clarity for those seeking to identify which surfaces are included in the impervious area calculation by defining the opposing term "pervious surface."

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on SB 118. Should you have further questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact either Rene Pelletier, Assistant Director, Water Division (Rene.Pelletier@des.nh.gov, 271-2951) or Darlene Forst, Shoreland Section Supervisor, Land Resource Management Programs (Darlene.Forst@des.nh.gov, 271-4067).

Sincerely,

Clark B. Freise
Assistant Commissioner

cc: Sponsors of SB 118: Senators Sanborn, Avard, French, Fuller Clark, Giuda, Gray, Innis, Kahn, Reagan, Ward, and Watters